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P 150528Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8570
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 2317
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 PHNOM PENH 000820

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
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STATE FOR EAP/MLS AND DRL
BANGKOK FOR REO JIM WALLER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/15/2017
TAGS: [ECON](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [SENV](#) [CB](#)
SUBJECT: GLOBAL WITNESS REPORT: ACCUSATIONS, THREATS,
RESULTS?

Classified By: Pol/Econ Chief Margaret McKean; Reason 1.4 (b) (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. On June 1, U.K.-based Global Witness made public a 95-page "Cambodia's Family Trees" report. The report's content is extremely

BACKGROUND: GLOBAL WITNESS IN CAMBODIA

[1](#)2. (U) Global Witness came to Cambodia in 1995 with a mission to stop illegal logging and to improve governance, transparency and accountability

REPORT ACCUSATIONS

[1](#)3. (U) The report is bold in its accusations of nepotism and criminal activities. It calls out Prime Minister Hun Sen's first cousin Dy Chouh

[1](#)4. (U) On page 73 of the report, Global Witness features information on U.S. assistance to the RGC military. The text raises concerns that U.S.

[1](#)5. (SBU) On June 7, the Ambassador spoke with a Global Witness representative at the latter's request. The Ambassador expressed USG support for

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE: BAN THE REPORT

[1](#)6. (U) Minister of Information Khieu Kanharith came out with a government ban on the Global Witness report shortly after it was released to the

[1](#)7. (C) In separate meetings with Deputy Prime Minister Sok An, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, and Om Yentheng, a close advisor to the Prime Minister

[1](#)8. (SBU) Other environmental NGOs in Cambodia say most of the information in the Global Witness document is old news -- having either made an

THREATS AND INTIMIDATION

[1](#)9. (C) On June 13, United Nations Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR) Deputy Representative Henrik Stenman and

[1](#)10. (C) Unconfirmed media reports stated Prime Minister Hun Sen's brother, Kampong Cham province governor Hun Neng, issued an open-ended three

COMMENT

[1](#)11. (SBU) The mission of watchdog groups such as Global Witness demands they make public allegations of corruption and harmful government activities

MUSSOMELI